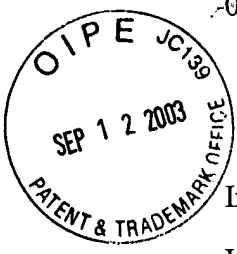


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IDS
DSMA 115100w 2861
9-2003
PATENT APPLICATION

03500.016161



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HAJIME YAMAMOTO, et al.)
Application No.: 10/067,358)
Filed: February 7, 2002)
For: LIQUID CONTAINER, LIQUID)
SUPPLY SYSTEM AND INK JET)
RECORDING APPARATUS)
UTILIZING THE SAME, AND)
METHOD OF MOUNTING)
LIQUID CONTAINER ON)
RECORDING APPARATUS)

Examiner: J. Nguyen
Group Art Unit: 2861

September 11, 2003

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to U.S. Publication No. 2002-0109758 (Atty. Docket 35.C16169), a copy of which is enclosed and which is listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

Applicants also respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to co-pending Application No. 09/814,999, filed March 23, 2001, by H. Fukazawa, et al., a copy of which is also enclosed.

It is Applicants' belief that Japanese priority applications for the above U.S. application may have been published before the filing date of the subject application, making the Japanese publications themselves available as prior art under at least § 102(a).

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neil", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 32,622

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